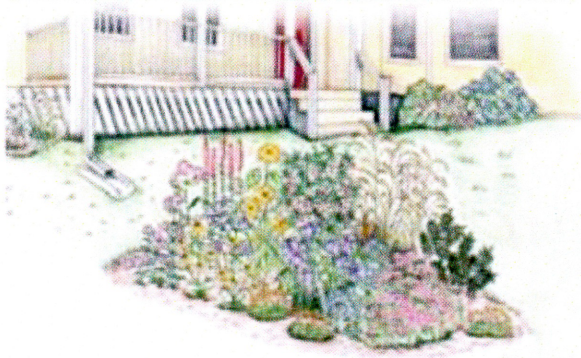


# Going Green with Storm Water

## Rain Gardens



### A Best Management Practice to:

- ◆ Reduce Stormwater Runoff
- ◆ Improve Water Quality
- ◆ Enhance Your Landscape

#### Plants List

##### **Shrubs**

Sweet Pepperbush  
Dogwood  
Shramrock Inkberry  
Winterberry  
Gro-Low Sumac  
Lowbush Blueberry  
Dwarf Fothergilla  
Slender Deutzia  
Potentilla

##### **Perennials**

Dwarf Aster  
Swamp Milweed  
Joe Pye Weed  
Coneflower  
Blazing Star  
Beebalm  
Blackeyed Susan  
Crested Iris  
Foamflower  
Yarrow  
Sea Oats

## What is a Rain Garden?

A rain garden is a shallow depression planted with perennial native plants that are tolerant of both dry and wet conditions. Rain gardens capture runoff from impervious surface areas such as rooftops and driveways and allow it to seep slowly into the ground. Most importantly, rain gardens help preserve nearby streams and ponds by reducing the amount of polluted runoff and filtering pollutants.

## Why Plant a Rain Garden?

Stormwater runoff from residential areas often contains excess lawn and garden fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides, oil, yard wastes, sediment and animal wastes which cause water pollution.

Rain gardens fill with stormwater and allow the water to slowly filter into the ground rather than running off into storm drains, and eventually into streams and lakes.

Rain gardens reduce peak storm flows, helping to prevent stream bank erosion and lowering the risk for local flooding.

By collecting and using rainwater that would otherwise run off your yard, you not only return rain to the water table, but you are also creating a beautiful solution to water pollution.



For more information visit <http://centralmastormwater.org>





## **Annual Water Quality Report Available on Website**

For the fourth year, the Holden Department of Public Works, Water & Sewer Division will be making its annual water quality report available to the public electronically through the Town's website. The report for 2016 will be available by June 30, 2017 and can be downloaded from the Town's website at [http://www.holdenma.gov/sites/holden/files/file/2016\\_water\\_quality\\_report.pdf](http://www.holdenma.gov/sites/holden/files/file/2016_water_quality_report.pdf).

As with last year, anyone who wants a paper copy of the report can call 508-210-5550 or email [mburke@holdenma.gov](mailto:mburke@holdenma.gov) to make a request. Reports will be mailed, e-mailed, or delivered to all those making such a request.

The annual water quality report, also known as the consumer confidence report, provides a summary of all contaminants found in Holden's drinking water during the previous year. It also provides information on water supply sources and treatment practices.



## **Seasonal Water Use Restriction**

Each year per the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Water Management Act Permit, the Town of Holden is required to restrict water use between May 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup>. These water use restrictions limit the use of water between the hours of 9AM and 5PM each day to "essential" outdoor uses. Examples of essential outdoor use includes irrigation to establish a new lawn or plantings, hand watering of lawns, gardens and flowers and cleaning building surfaces or pavement in preparation to apply surface treatments such as paint or driveway sealer.

Examples of "nonessential" uses include regular irrigation of lawns with sprinklers or automatic sprinkler systems, washing of vehicles and washing of buildings, parking lots or pavement for purposes other than applying surface treatments.

Please visit [www.holdenma.gov](http://www.holdenma.gov) for more details. If you have any questions regarding the water use restriction please call The Department of Public Works at 508-210-5546. We thank you for your efforts to preserve this precious resource.